



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460**

**OFFICE OF PREVENTION, PESTICIDES
AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES**

**James H. Lecky, Director
Office of Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service
13th Floor, 1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910**

Dear Mr. Lecky:

I am writing to request that your office provide the environmental baseline for species and critical habitat, and any potential cumulative effects information considered by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in past Biological Opinions, for the following five species in the Chesapeake Bay watershed:

- **Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*)**
- **Loggerhead Turtle (*Caretta caretta*)**
- **Kemp's Ridley Turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*)**
- **Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)**
- **Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)**

If this information is unavailable for these species in a synthesized document, we would appreciate receiving copies of any Biological Opinions related to these species in the Chesapeake Bay watershed from which we may discern the environmental baseline of species and habitat and non-federal actions reasonably anticipated by the National Marine Fisheries Service to occur in the area.

As you are aware, EPA received your letter of May 29, 2007, in which NMFS indicated they did not concur with our determination that atrazine use is Not Likely to Adversely Affect the subject species in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. As a result, EPA intends to initiate formal consultation on these effects determinations and is preparing a cumulative effects analysis as part of the formal consultation package. The information we are requesting is necessary in order for EPA to complete its submission to NMFS.

Receipt of this information in electronic form would expedite initiation of formal consultation, which in turn will allow NMFS and EPA to more expeditiously complete the process of assessing the effects of atrazine to these species. Because of the high priority we place on this activity, I will call you on Monday, June 11th to discuss with you the time frame within which we can anticipate receipt of this information. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/original signed by A. Williams 6/7/07

Arthur-Jean B. Williams

Associate Director

Environmental Fate and Effects Division

**cc: Debbie Edwards, OPP
Peter Caulkins, OPP**